

Lecture #12

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Discrete Probability Distributions

Poisson Distribution

- parameter `lambda` for constant rate
- bounded at 0, discrete
- good for rare events
- as `lambda` gets large, Poisson resembles normal

Binomial Distribution

- parameter `prob` for probability of success
- parameter `size` for number of trials
- if `size = 1` special Bernoulli trial
- bounded at 0, `size`
- as `size` gets large with small `p`, Bernoulli resembles Poisson

Negative Binomial Distribution

- parameter `prob` for probability of success
- parameter `size` for number of successes
- distribution is the number of failures till you reach a number of successes
- geometric series is special case for `size = 1`

Sampling from a vector of values

- sampling with or without replacement
- sampling equiprobably or with specified probabilities

Mixture model

- use for conditional events
- birds $p(\text{finding a nest site}) * p(\text{producing offspring})$